

The Messenger

A Newsletter for Dearborn Congregational Church United Church of Christ

Dearborn Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
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*WORSHIP SERVICE EVERY **SUNDAY AT 10:00 A.M.** NURSERY CARE PROVIDED*

*OFFICE HOURS TUESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY **9:00 a.m. - 1:00 pm***

Reverend Kren's Office Hours:
Monday—Thursday mornings 8am—Noon
Monday—Thursday afternoons 1pm until 5pm,
except when visiting members of the congregation.



I've Got a Super Congregation!

Maybe I had it wrong. A few weeks ago a long-time friend asked me why I was still working? "Bill, you're old enough to retire - what are you doing in Dearborn?" And I replied, "because they need a pastor and this is what I do."

For the last two months, I've been battling cancer. It's early on in this journey, and I'm certain there will be many more chapters – many more "ups" and "downs." One thing, however, is now clear. I'm here at Dearborn Congregational Church because I need you (the congregation) and your help in winning this battle. And we need each other in this ongoing ministry of sharing the "**Super Good News.**"

I'll never forget that July Sunday Morning Worship when I officially announced my medical condition. I wasn't sure the reaction. What happened, since, has been overwhelming.

- I've lost count – the number of cards, phone calls, and messages I've received from the people of DCC who assure me they are praying for the pastor.
- Some of you have stopped by the office – just to "check up" on me.
- Quite a few of you have shared your personal stories of similar health battles – fought and won.
- In those moments when I'm alone and feeling apprehensive, I remind myself that I have a congregation who knows how to pray and believes in the power of God. I genuinely feel your prayers and derive a strength I did not know I had.
- And a few of you have taken the time to communicate to Sue – your love and support for the pastor's wife. She's been faithfully at my side and helping me through some challenging moments. I know she would agree when I say that we appreciate the love and concern you have expressed.



In 1 Peter 3:8, the Apostle admonishes the church to "... **Be of one mind. Sympathize with each other. Love each other as brothers and sisters. Be tenderhearted, and keep a humble attitude.**" Amen! I not only love my Church family, but I'm humbled by the realization of how much I am loved and how much I need you in my life.

With "Super" Blessings,

Pastor Bill

FROM THE DIACONATE

Guest Speakers - September 10 & 17

Brian Sampson and Nancy Wolter will lead us in worship on Sunday, September 10 as the Krens begin their 2-week vacation. We hope they have a wonderful time and pray for their safe return.

Rev. Cheryl Schalm, Minister of Christian Education at St. Paul's UCC in Taylor, will be in the pulpit September 17. We look forward to having Rev. Schalm with us and giving her a warm welcome on that Sunday.

Choir Resumes – September 10

After taking our summer hiatus, the choir will once again be back singing on September 10. New voices are always welcome to join us.

Thank you to those who volunteered their talent and provided special music during the summer months.

Neighbors in Need

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry with two-thirds of the offering going to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. These grants are awarded to churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. Special envelopes will be available in the pews for this offering from September 17 through October 1.

Ushers Needed: Would you like to help with Sunday morning worship services by being an usher? This is a very important activity. Friendly and efficient ushers help Dearborn Congregational present a welcoming atmosphere to both visitors and members. Written instructions are available and training can be arranged at your request. Anyone interested please see Nancy, Teresa or Cheryl.

Collecting School Supplies:

School is back in session and we're gathering supplies for a local elementary school in a disadvantaged area.

This year's donations will go to Bennett Elementary in the Mexican community in SW Detroit, which has seen its share of upheaval and heartache for families as a result of immigration enforcement. Good deals are available at retailers like Target, Meijer and dollar stores. Items needed include composition books, pencils, colored pencils, markers, erasers, pens, scissors, and glue. Backpacks would be welcome, too! Donations can be placed in the blue box outside the church office. They will be delivered in early Sept. Thank you for giving!



Food Bank Goods

The Church also accepts canned goods and non-perishable items for the needy. We regularly deliver items collected to Fish and Loaves in Taylor. These items may be placed in the basket at the rear of the church. Please check your cans and boxes for expiration dates. Your generosity of appreciated



Treasurer's Report for July 2017

Income- \$5,079.00

Expenses- \$9,767.63

Capital Improvement Fund - \$ 13,614.66

Investments with UBS valued at \$185,020.21

Matthew Haling, Treasurer



OUR CHURCH AT WORK In September

Helpers for Sunday Services

Ushers:

September 3 – Nancy Wolter
 September 10 – Available
 September 17 – Valerie Haas
 September 24 – Available

Liturgists:

September 3 – Debbie Evans & Pete Stacho
 September 10 – Jim Haling & Available
 September 17 – Available
 September 24 – Available



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

5 Edith Schwartz
 5 Susan Hutton
 16 Rev. Bill Kren
 30 Tammy Jabtecki

Dedication of Flowers - September

September 3 – Mark Dobronski
 September 10 – Pat Mangrum
 September 17 – Elaine Stacho
 September 24 – Dave Jabtecki

Fellowship Hour – September

September 3 – Available
 September 10 – Available
 September 17 – Valerie Haas
 September 24 – Available

PRAYER LIST



Shirley Fedraw	Medical Concerns
Geri Sampson	Medical Concerns
Pauline Gourlay	Medical Concerns
Annika Koch	Medical Concerns
Kathy Gideon	Medical Concerns
Cathy MacKenzie	Medical Concerns
Tom Schlaff	Medical Concerns
Carol Burroughs	Medical Concerns
Irene Moxon	Medical Concerns
Rev. Norman Kirsch	Medical Concerns
Lois Clickner	Medical Concerns
Elie Stergiou	Medical Concerns
Jane Haling	Health Issues
Jim Shippee	Medical Concerns
Carrie Goldie	Serious Medical Issues
Rev. Bill Kren	Serious Health Issues

Dates to Remember:

September 13 Trustees Meeting 7pm
 September 14 Diaconate Meeting 7pm

2017 Annual Christmas Tree Sale ???

There will be a Men's Club meeting held after the church service on Sunday, September 10, 2017. The topic of discussion will be the plans if we should continue the Annual Christmas Tree Sale. We will hold a vote to determine the future of the Annual Christmas Tree Sale.

All Men and Woman who have participated or would plan to participate in selling Christmas Trees this year are invited to attend the meeting.

I'M JUST SAYIN' ...

...with Pat Stacho

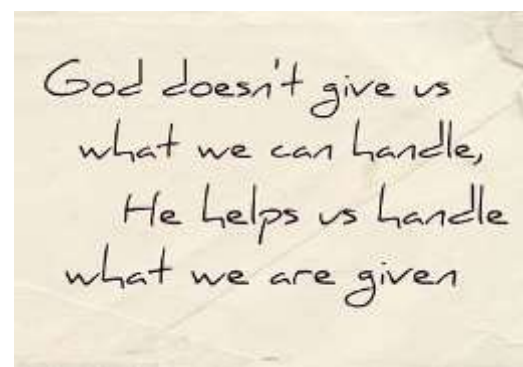
GOD DOESN'T GIVE US MORE THAN WE CAN HANDLE!

Not true...Oh I know, we always manage to get through life's trials. But sometimes I think we are faced with battles we simply cannot face alone. That is God's plan. We reach out to Him, to our family and friends. Get it? We handle it, but we don't have to do it alone.

Our electronic sign in front of our church is stuck! It repeatedly says, "THIS IS A TEST". Our Pastor is going through some difficult times. But he is not alone. Maybe this IS a test. Not just for Rev Kren, but for all of us. We certainly cannot take away his pain, and make the horror of cancer go away, but we can handle it. TOGETHER! Our Pastor has shown us that faith is not a Sunday only thing. He has shown strength, courage and managed to keep that wonderful sense of humor. And we, his church family, are learning to thank God for every day He sees fit to give us. Complaining about stiff knees, aches and pains, being sooo tired, all seems so ungrateful. Stage 4 cancer wins in the complaint department! (Quote from Rev Kren! Lol)

So maybe it is true; God doesn't give us more than we can handle. He must think we are pretty tough. And we are! There are times we all go through trials, illnesses, losing someone we love, financial setbacks, etc. There are times I can't open a pickle jar! See how silly our problems can be? GOD is good. Even in this difficult time, let's all take the time to say thank you God, for making us so tough. We got this! We're going to kick cancer's butt!

Please continue to keep Rev Kren and his family in your prayers. And let's pray for each other. We all need God's grace to get through our own personal trials. Love and prayers to you all...I'm just sayin'...



God doesn't give us
what we can handle,
He helps us handle
what we are given